

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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TAGS: SNAR, PINT, CASC, PE, OREP (MANN, JAMES R.)

SUBJ: VISIT OF CODEL MANN

REF: STATE 126267

1. REPRESENTATIVE JAMES R. MANN (D-SC) VISITED LIMA JUNE 2-5. HIS PRIMARY INTERESTS REFLECTED HIS MEMBERSHIP ON THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE, DRUGS, U.S. PRISONERS. FROM HIS ARRIVAL AT THE AIRPORT, MR. MANN WENT WITH THE CONTROL OFFICER (POLITICAL COUNSELOR) DIRECTLY TO THE EMBASSY. THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR/NARCOTICS COORDINATOR AND THEN THE ECONOMIC COUNSELOR BRIEFED HIM ON SUBJECTS WITHIN THEIR AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY, INCLUDING PARTICULARLY DRUGS (COCAINE), THE PERUVIAN JUDICIAL AND PENAL SYSTEMS AND U.S. PRISONERS IN PERU, THE PERUVIAN ECONOMY AND ECONOMIC POLICIES, AND U.S.-PERUVIAN ECONOMIC RELATIONS. MR. MANN APPEARED SATISFIED WITH THESE BRIEFINGS.

2. MR. MANN THEN MET WITH THE AMBASSADOR FOR A MORE GENERAL DISCUSSION, DURING WHICH MR. MANN PROVIDED INTERESTING INSIGHTS INTO THE WORK OF THE CONGRESS IN HIS AREA OF SPECIALIZATION. THE ECONOMIC COUNSELOR TOOK THE OCCASION TO FORECAST THE SEVERE EFFECTS THAT TAXATION OF OVERSEAS ALLOWANCES WOULD HAVE ON FOREIGN SERVICE PERSONNEL, PARTICULARLY THOSE IN THE LOWER GRADES. MR. MANN APPEARED SYMPATHETIC TO THESE CONCERNS.

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3. THE FOLLOWING MEETING WAS WITH THE SPECIAL-AGENT-IN-CHARGE OF THE DEA LIMA DISTRICT OFFICE. THE SAIC DESCRIBED THE DRUG PROBLEM EMANATING FROM PERU AND COOPERATIVE U.S.-PERUVIAN EFFORTS TO COMBAT IT. MR. MANN ALSO QUESTIONED THE SAIC ABOUT U.S. PRISONERS HELD IN PERU ON DRUG CHARGES, AND APPEARED SATISFIED WITH THE RESPONSES.

4. ON JUNE 3, MR. MANN ATTENDED FOREIGN MINISTER AND MRS. DE LA PUENTE'S AL FRESCO LUNCHEON FOR MRS. ROSALYNN CARTER. IN ADDITION TO MEETING MRS. CARTER, MEMBERS OF HER PARTY, AND A WIDE RANGE OF OTHER PERUVIAN AND AMERICAN GUESTS, MR. MANN HELD TWO SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS. ONE WAS WITH AMBASSADOR GUSTAVO SILVA ARANDA, ADVISOR TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER ON POLITICAL-MILITARY MATTERS, SILVA ARANDA PUT FORTH THE PERUVIAN JUSTIFICATION FOR THEIR LARGE ARMAMENTS PURCHASES, WHILE POINTING TO PERU'S INITIATIVES TOWARD REGIONAL ARMS LIMITATIONS. HE ALSO DESCRIBED THE MODIFIED GOP APPROACH TO THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT.

5. MR. MANN'S OTHER SUBSTANTIVE LUNCH-TIME CONVERSATION WAS WITH THE HEAD OF THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, OF PERU, MR. ALAN D. ROGERS, WHO IS ALSO MANAGER OF THE BANK OF AMERICA HERE. THE AMCHAM HEAD DISCUSSED THE POTENTIALLY-SERIOUS EFFECT ON U.S. BUSINESS COMPETITIVENESS OVERSEAS OF LOWERING THE LEVEL OF TAX EXEMPTIONS ON U.S. SALARIES EARNED ABROAD.

6. MR. MANN APPEARED PLEASED WITH THE TREATMENT HE RECEIVED FROM THE EMBASSY. THE ONLY JARRING NOTE OCCURRED BEFORE HIS ARRIVAL, WHEN SOME OF HIS BAGGAGE AND CLOTHING WERE RUINED THROUGH MIS-HANDLING. FORTUNATELY, BRANIFF AIRWAYS WAS QUICK TO ASSURE HIM OF ADEQUATE COMPENSATION. THE EMBASSY WOULD WELCOME MORE VISITORS LIKE CONGRESSMAN MANN TO INCREASE U.S. INFORMATION ABOUT AND UNDERSTANDING OF PERU, BILATERAL RELATIONS AND THE CONDUCT OF OFFICIAL U.S. ACTIVITIES ABROAD.
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